

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

EB-07 AID-05 /128 W

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R 042341Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3611

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION VIENNA

UNCLAS USUN 5625

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AORG, AFIN, ABUD, ABLD

SUBJ: UN FINANCES: FIFTH COMMITTEE DISCUSSES SECTION 26-AGENDA
ITEM 99 (JIU)

REF: (A) USUN 5588 (B) STATE A-6297

1. SUMMARY: AT 1729TH MEETING, NOV 4, COMMITTEE RESUMED DISCUSSION OF PROGRAM BUDGET SECTION 26 (CONSTRUCTION), ALONG WITH (A) PROGRAM OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO PALAIS DE NATIONS, GENEVA (A/C.5/1690); AND (B) EXTENSION OF THE PALAIS DES NATIONS (A/C.5/1694). CHAIRMAN OF ACABQ MADE ORAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY BELGIUM, USSR, CAMEROONS, US. COMMITTEE THEN TOOK UP AGENDA ITEM 99 - JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (A/C.5/1676 AND A/C.5/1693). CHAIRMAN OF ACABQ GAVE ORAL REPORT ON REPORTS OF JIU. STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY REPS OF ROMANIA, POLAND, AND PHILIPPINES. USYG DAVIDSON RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS FROM DELEGATES. FOR PROGRAM OF WORK AT TWO MEETINGS ON WED, NOV 5, SEE PARA 10. END SUMMARY

1. PROGRAM BUDGET SECTION 26 - CONSTRUCTION AND
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MAINTENANCE UN PROPERTY. BELGIAN REP, ALTHOUGH APPROVING

WORK PREPARED BY ACABQ, ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS: 1) WHETHER SYG WOULD FOLLOW UP ACABQ RECOMMENDATIONS IN PARA 26.18 CONCERNING UP-KEEP OF MAJOR GIFTS TO THE UN; 2) RE PARA 26.18 CONCERNING FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS OF FACILITIES OF PUBLIC AREA OF CON-COURSE, HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER NEED FOR \$100,000 TO BE USED FOR STUDY BY OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS; AND 3) IN PARA 26.23, HE WAS CONCERNED WITH NEED OF \$30,000 FOR CAFE IN VIEW OF CLOSE PROXIMITY TO UN HEADQUARTERS CAFETERIA.

3. USSR REP MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT AND SUGGESTED A MORE RATIONAL USE OF FUNDS. HE BELIEVED FIGURE OF \$9 MILLION RATHER THAN \$13.3 MILLION WAS MORE REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF REAL NEEDS. STATED SOV DEL DID NOT FIND ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR INCREASE AND WOULD VOTE AGAINST ANY INCREASE FOR 1976-77 BUDGET.

4. CAMEROON DEL ASKED SECRETARIAT WHY SOME UN ORGANIZATIONS NOT PLACED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD THAN NEW YORK AND GENEVA. US DEL (BACHE) DELIVERED STATEMENT ENDORSING REDUCTIONS PROPOSED BY ACABQ PER REF B.

5. IN RESPONSE TO BELGIUM CONCERNING PARA 26.18 OF ACABQ, BUDGET DIRECTOR LAVAU AGREED THAT SYG SHOULD CONSIDER A MORE GENERAL STUDY BEFORE MAKING A REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS. HE SAID THAT FEASIBILITY STUDY HAD TO DO WITH REVENUE-PRODUCING FACILITIES, ALTHOUGH IT HAD A RELATIVELY LOW DEGREE OF PRIORITY. SYG INTENTION IS TO ATTRACT TOURIST TRADE. LAVAU SAID THAT CAFE IN UNDC IS A SMALL ONE AND MOST OF \$30,000 IS FOR BEDS AND SUPPLIES IN NURSE'S OFFICE. COST OF RENTAL OF SPACE WOULD BE SHARED BY TENANTS. IN REPLY TO THE CAMEROON DEL, LAVAU SAID A STUDY ON DECENTRALIZATION WAS MADE IN RELATION TO LOCATION OF UNEP HEADQUARTERS. HE ALSO NOTED COMPLEX BEING COMPLETED IN VIENNA.

6. UN DEPUTY CONTROLLER ZIEHL STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH SYG HAD NOT OBJECTED TO CUTS RECOMMENDED BY ACABQ, MOST OF WORL WOULD HAVE TO BE DEFERRED IF REDUCTIONS EFFECTED. WINSPEARE (DIRECTOR GENERAL, UN OFFICE GENEVA), IN ADDITIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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RESPONSE TO BELGIAN REP, SAID BUILDING MAINTENANCE WAS A NECESSITY TO PRESERVE CAPITAL INVESTED IN PROPERTY.

7. ITEM 99 - REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (JIU) CHAIRMAN OF THE ACABQ MADE AN ORAL REPORT ON A/C.5/1676 (SYG NOTE) AND A/C.5/1693 (SYG REPORT) ON JIU REPORTS; SAID ACABQ REGARDS CONTENTS WITH MIXED FEELINGS AND THAT COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO SUGGEST THAT SYG HAVE NEXT YEAR'S JIU REPORTS

CONSIDERED WITH DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING JIU'S MANDATE.

8. ROMANIAN REP WAS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF JIU IN THAT IT INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS OF ORGANIZATION AND ENSURED BETTER UTILIZATION OF ITS FUNDS. EXPRESSED SPECIAL INTEREST IN REPORT ON DECENTRALIZATION OF UN ACTIVITIES IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELD, THOUGHT-ROLE OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS SHOULD BE ENHANCED, AND THAT PROVISION SHOULD BE MADE FOR SWIFTER CONSIDERATION OF JIU REPORTS BY ECOSOC. POLISH REP THOUGHT JIU SHOULD GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TO ITS INSPECTION OPERATIONS BECAUSE THERE IS GROWING NEED FOR THEM WHEREAS MORE IN-DEPTH STUDIES WOULD REQUIRE LARGER BUDGET FOR JIU, WHICH WE CANNOT AFFORD.

9. DAVIDSON, USYG FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, CLARIFIED STATEMENT IN A/C.5/1693 (LAST LINE, PAGE 2) CONCERNING BERTRAND'S EPORT ON PERSONNEL PROBLEMS. HE SAID THIS JIU REPORT DEALS EXCLUSIVELY WITH RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN REJECTED AS INCAPABLE OF BEING IMPLEMENTED, ADDING THAT REASONS THEREFOR HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN REPORT ITSELF. ACABQ IN MOST INSTANCES CONCURRED WITH SYG'S COMMENTS. SYG WILL REPORT NEXT YEAR ON PROGRESS HE IS MAKING REGARDING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS IN BERTRAND'S REPORT. TO BELGIUM'S QUESTION REGARDING FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON BERTRAND'S COST MEASUREMENT SYSTEM, HE SAID RECOMMENDATIONS HAD BEEN STUDIED BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION (ACC) IN ROME IN APRIL 1975, AND ACC MEMBERS ARE EXAMING THEM THROUGH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS (CCAQ) NOW. MENTIONED THAT UNDP HAD REVISED ITS SHARE OF OVERHEAD COSTS FROM 13 TO 14 PERCENT, BUT UNDP SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO BEAR FULL 22-23 PERCENT OF OVERHEAD COSTS, BECAUSE TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES ARE PART OF NORMAL AGENCY PROGRAMS AND THOSE EXECUTING AGENCIES SHOULD BEAR

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THE COST IN THEIR REGULAR PROGRAMS. COST MEASUREMENT STUDIES ARE CONTINUING, AND BERTRAND'S RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH CAN BE IMPLEMENTED WILL BE; MEANWHILE CCAQ WILL REPORT TO ACC AT ITS NEXT SESSION. DAVIDISON PROMOSD TO FURNISH INFORMATION CONCERNING PORTION OF UN BUDGET SPENT ON UNDP OVERHEAD COSTS.

10. COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM FOR WEDNESDAY, NOV 5: AT MORNING MEETING COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER DRAFT ON PUBLIC INFORMATION -- A/C.5/L.1241/REV. 1 BY COLOMBIA, L.1242 BY ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, PHILIPPINES AND TURKEY, L.1245 BY USSR RELATING TO L.1242, AND L.1243 BY PAKISTAN. IN ADDITION, SECTION 26 (ACCOMMODATIONS), AND ITEMS 99 (JIU) AND 101 (PUBS AND DOCS); AT AFTERNOON MEETING, SECTION 24 (UN BOND ISSUE), ITEM 101, QUESTION OF EFFECTS OF CURRENCY

INSTABILITY, AND A/C.5/L.1240 (NOTE ADDRESSED TO CHAIRMAN
ON FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AT UN). SECTION 17 WILL BE DEFERRED
UNTIL NEXT WEEK, AT WHICH TIME IT WILL BE CONSIDERED IN
CONJUNCTION WITH A/C.5/1688 (NATURAL DISASTERS).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN05625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750383-0714
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751178/aaaacsmi.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE A-6297
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 NOV 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN FINANCES: FIFTH COMMITTEE DISCUSSES SECTION 26-AGENDA ITEM 99 (JIU)
TAGS: AORG, AFIN, ABUD, ABLD, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006